



**BILL RICHARDSON**  
GOVERNOR

*State of New Mexico*  
**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

*Office of the Secretary*  
*Harold Runnels Building*  
*1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110*  
*Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110*  
*Telephone (505) 827-2855*  
*Fax (505) 827-2836*



**RON CURRY**  
SECRETARY

**DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

For Immediate Release  
May 21, 2003

Contact: Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director  
Phone: (505) 827-0314

**Environment Department Issues Compliance Order to  
Clovis Cattle Trailer Washout Operation**

(Santa Fe, NM) –The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has issued an administrative compliance order to Bigger and Better Septic Tanks (BBST), LLC, of Clovis for violations of the New Mexico Water Quality Act. NMED has charged BBST of Clovis, as well as its owners Darin Bare, and Jim May with violating their NMED-issued permit by discharging wastewater, containing water contaminants, from a cattle trailer washout into unlined lagoons.

“The Environment Department believes in strong enforcement of New Mexico’s environmental laws and regulations,” said NMED Secretary Ron Curry. “Polluters, whether they be huge mines or small operations, must be held accountable at all times, but especially when their actions imperil a vital resource like water and endanger the public’s health.”

This wastewater discharge from BBST’s cattle trailer washout facility poses a hazard to public health by allowing wastewater containing high concentrations of nitrogen compounds to move directly or indirectly into groundwater through the unlined lagoons.

The administrative compliance order suspends BBST’s groundwater discharge permit, requires corrective action at the BBST facility, and assesses a \$483,994 civil penalty. The violations alleged in the administrative compliance order include failure to install a lined lagoon and failure to apply the wastewater in a manner that will prevent groundwater contamination.

For further information, contact Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED, at (505) 827-0314.

###